



Michigan Author Award Criteria & Guidelines

Purpose:

This award recognizes an outstanding published body of literary work by an author who is either from Michigan or has substantial ties to Michigan.

Background:

The Michigan Author Award was established in 1992 with the intention of recognizing significant Michigan authors with a lifetime achievement award. Michigan Author Award Work Group members consist of an assemblage of librarians, both public and academic, from across the state. Over the years the award has been given to a diverse collection of writers working in a variety of genres and styles.

Qualifications/Eligibility:

Anyone is eligible to submit a nomination. The author must meet the following qualifications to be considered eligible for the award:

1. The author must either be a current resident of Michigan, a long-time resident of Michigan recently relocated or an author whose works are identified with Michigan because of subject matter and/or setting in Michigan.
2. The author's work may be in the form of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, or any other literary format the Michigan Author Award Group finds acceptable.
3. The author must have a body of work encompassing at least three published titles for adults, teens or children.
4. Authors who self-publish are eligible for consideration, as long as their work is available in libraries.
5. The author must be living at the time of the nomination.
6. The author must have a publishing career spanning a minimum of five years.

Criteria/Selection Process:

The Michigan Library Association's Michigan Author Award Work Group determines the recipient based on overall literary merit spanning a body of work. The award is intended to highlight an author who has made a significant contribution to the literary heritage of the state of Michigan.

Consideration should include critical reviews, consistency of quality of body of work over time, other awards and recognition, style, technique, and where appropriate, accuracy, authenticity, and illustration (but decisions should be based primarily on text).